Every fourth-year dental student dreads having to take Part II of the National Board Dental Examination (NBDE). After all of the courses students have had over the previous years, being tested on all the information in one exam is daunting, to say the least. With a pile of textbooks and notes to review, they do their best to weed out what is relevant for the exam and what is not. Over the past decade, several courses have been developed to aid dental students in preparing for this board exam. Unfortunately, with the rigorous schedule students endure, attending these courses on a regular basis is very difficult. To add to the obstacles, cost is a significant factor, with many courses costing hundreds of dollars. For students who cannot or choose not to take one of these courses, this book is a handy and useful resource.

*Mosby’s Review for the NBDE Part II* is a relatively comprehensive overview of topics typically covered on the exam. These include endodontics, operative dentistry, oral and maxillofacial surgery, pain control, oral diagnosis, orthodontics, pediatric dentistry, patient management, periodontics, pharmacology, and prosthodontics. Each topic has its own chapter to keep the reader focused on the subject at hand. At the end of each chapter is a section with twenty-five sample questions for review. These questions are presented in the same writing style as the NBDE itself.

The text provides more than 300 illustrations to assist in the explanations of certain items. The photos are of good quality for the most part. My biggest complaint is that they are all in black and white, which can make interpretation of some of the items difficult.

Even with the very reasonable purchase price, a CD-ROM is included with this book. The CD-ROM includes a complete practice exam that simulates the experience of taking the exam. This practice exam is particularly helpful for helping students learn to time the test. Numerous case scenarios are also provided to help students with clinical application skills.

While it is difficult to keep up with technology, I would like to have seen a version of the review that could be studied on a PDA. The mobility that would provide would be greatly beneficial when students are trying to steal study time wherever they can.

Overall, this is an excellent resource for the student preparing for Part II of the NBDE. While it will not provide everything one needs to know to pass the exam, it is as fine a review as one will find in one location. In addition, while this is not the intent of the text, it would also be a useful refresher for someone entering dental education. At 425 pages, it is a relatively quick review for theory and terminology that new faculty members may have forgotten over time.
Manual of Temporomandibular Disorders
Edward F. Wright, D.D.S., M.S., M.A.G.D.
354 pp., illustrated, indexed
$99.99 paperback
Reviewed by:
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The purpose of this book is to simplify for the general dental practitioner the complexities associated with the diagnosis and treatment of temporomandibular disorders (TMD). The author provides for the general dentist a systematic approach to the diagnosis and treatment of TMD. Where possible, a research-based approach is used; when that is not possible, the author presents a consensus approach based on current information and his significant experience.

The major point of interest to the reader is that the book is clearly and distinctly organized in the manner in which a general dental practitioner would assess, treat, and manage a patient with TMD in his or her dental office. Each chapter is divided into subheadings with focal points that make it easy for the reader to access and assimilate the information. There are nineteen chapters divided into five parts, with eighteen case scenarios and twelve appendices. Each chapter has quick consults that delineate a specific issue within the chapter. Also included in each chapter are technical tips to assist the practitioner in evaluating treatment options.

Part I of the book describes the initial evaluation. Included are the patient interview, a review of the “Initial Patient Questionnaire,” clinical examination, imaging, TMD diagnostic categories, and contributing factors. Part II describes the common acute TMD conditions and treatments. The chapters include TMD secondary to trauma, TMD secondary to dental treatment, lateral pterygoid myoplasm, acute TMD disc displacement with reduction, and TMD dislocation.

Part III reviews occlusal appliance therapy with a review of stabilization appliances and anterior positioning appliances. Part IV discusses a multidisciplinary treatment approach. The areas include self-management therapy, physical medicine, cognitive-behavioral intervention, pharmacological management, other dental procedures, and integrating multidisciplinary therapies.

Part V has eighteen case scenarios, which are cases that were referred to the author due to TMD-like symptoms. As he points out, not all of the cases presented in the scenarios had TMD. Thus, the case scenarios are designed to assist the reader in developing a better understanding of the complexities the dental practitioner faces in determining whether the patient has a temporomandibular disorder and, if so, how the various TMD therapies are integrated in treating the patient.

The author has demonstrated in this book a thorough understanding of TMD and treatment approaches for the dental practitioner. What makes the book unique is the systematically organized approach with which the chapters are presented. This approach, along with a straightforward writing style, makes the book very easy to read and understand. In addition, there are numerous illustrations and figures to assist the reader; the printing and binding are of a high quality.

This book is one of the most straightforward, systematic approaches to understanding and treating TMD that I have read. I found it easy to read and understand and believe it would be so for the general dental practitioner. The only slight criticism is that the book is in softcover rather than hardcover, but it can be easily protected with a binder protector.

The book would be an excellent text for dental students studying TMD and is essential for postgraduate programs, especially AEGD and GPR programs. It is a must reference for all general dental practitioners to have in their practice. I highly recommend the book without reservations.
The aim of this book is to provide an introduction to the subspecialty of dental implants. For such a concise text, it adequately covers the foundational knowledge required by a practitioner in order to incorporate implants into a restorative dental practice. This book is useful for clinicians with limited knowledge of the field, dental students looking for a global view of implant dentistry, and allied dental professionals who require a basic fundamental grasp of implantology.

The eight chapters are well laid out. Chapter 1 reviews the history of dental implants and generally describes the types of implants and implant systems available. Chapter 2 discusses how edentulous spaces occur and why we should replace them. Chapter 3 reviews patient assessment, medical risk factors, and treatment planning considerations, such as timing of extractions and the number and placement of implants. The surgery considerations in Chapter 4 review pertinent anatomy and describe first- and second-stage surgery. In Chapter 5, prosthodontic procedures are detailed for individual restorations as well as implant-retained and implant-supported prostheses. The last three chapters cover advanced cases, complications and maintenance, and the importance of keeping up with developments in this field.

Each chapter consists of six sections: Aim, Outcome, Introduction, the body of information, Conclusions, and Further Reading. Each is precisely worded and results in an impressively small book. However, the Aim and Outcome sections are too concise, which is not useful for a dental school text. There are 126 illustrations in the book, some more descriptive than others. Most of the figures are clear and well described, albeit small. A few are unclear, mislabeled, or non-existent, which can confuse the reader. The Further Reading section is somewhat disappointing. Considering the vast amount of literature on dental implants, not much is offered to the reader interested in a more in-depth approach to the subject.

This book offers solid information in an easy-to-read format for a variety of dental audiences. It is an ideal quick-reference for the dentist and an acceptable library book for the dental auxiliary. A more comprehensive text would be necessary to walk the practitioner through the actual execution of implant dentistry, but this text is a very good starting point for discussion both in the dental office and in the classroom.
Dental implants are now considered state of the art in tooth replacement. Countless clinical trials have demonstrated that dental implants provide long-term function and at the same time conserve adjacent teeth by eliminating the need for utilizing them as abutments for conventional fixed prostheses. As clinicians continue to expand and challenge the boundaries of dental implant applications, the need to understand current innovative techniques for bone grafting becomes essential for clinicians involved in dental implant rehabilitation.

The intended purpose of this book is to provide a guideline for postgraduate students in oral and maxillofacial surgery and clinicians involved in oral bone reconstruction prior to dental implant placement. This book uses a photographic rather than a discussion approach to present various bone grafting techniques. As such, the book fulfills the objectives of a clinical color atlas of bone grafting techniques. The author has utilized high-quality photography as well as professional illustrations to explain the techniques and procedures.

There are eleven chapters, commencing with chapters on the biology of bone grafting and general principles of bone grafting. The book starts logically with the first heading as “Why bone grafts?” This provides a brief description to the need for and types of bone grafts. Chapter 2 covers the basic armamentarium used in bone grafting. This is followed by nine chapters according to the location of the harvesting bone sites; these describe techniques of harvesting bone from several locations of the mandible (symphysis, ramus, body, coronoid process), maxilla (tuberosity, sinus wall), the zygomatic, calvarium, iliac crest, and the tibia. Each of these chapters contains basic relevant information about the clinical application, harvesting techniques, armamentarium needed, and potential complications that can be experienced.

Attention is also given to soft tissue management in Chapter 3, where the author emphasizes relieving incisions and partial thickness flaps in order to achieve primary closure over the grafted site. Although the majority of the cases presented represent autogenous bone grafting techniques, several cases also illustrate the use of alloplastic materials as well utilization of platelet rich plasma (PRP).

This book would have benefited from more information on treatment planning and a discussion on the selection of host site as well as some classification and details of various alloplastic bone substitutes used and those currently available. In my opinion, some of the techniques, such as harvesting bone from the cranial vault, the iliac crest, and tibia, appear oversimplified. There is a definite need for more discussion on these sites as these should not be attempted by someone not qualified as a medically trained maxillofacial surgeon.

As a clinical guide, this book has a reasonable bibliography with most chapters, covering clinical as well as research publications. Although some may feel that not enough references have been cited with other chapters, this is probably due to lack of current research in bone grafting for certain procedures described in this book. It would, however, have been useful if more cases were shown to completion with three- to four-year follow-up data and clinical outcomes.

Overall, this is a high-quality book that can be recommended for postgraduate students in oral and maxillofacial surgery as well as periodontists or clinicians involved in bone-grafting procedures for dental implant placement.
With the changes in dental materials and patient demands for higher esthetic levels, the authors of this book believe that sharing their approach to treating complex esthetic cases would be of great benefit to general dentists, prosthodontists, and laboratory technicians. One of the major differences in this book versus many other clinical texts is the photographs. The authors routinely use a stereomicroscope for their preparations and evaluation of their cases. They share these views while explaining the techniques they used to achieve their results.

The book provides a detailed analysis of the most significant clinical procedures relating to fixed prosthodontic cases. While some of the material is common knowledge to many practicing dentists, it is presented within the framework of scientific evidence coupled with the authors’ years of experience. Some of the clinical procedures are cutting-edge, especially relating to dental materials. They go into significant detail on the topics of ceramics and cements. Entire chapters are dedicated to preparation and margin design for the different restorations.

Tissue retraction is of monumental importance in fixed prosthodontics. It is, arguably, the most important step to long-term clinical success. The chapters that detail their technique are well written and ensure success at the impression stage.

The book is organized in a stepwise fashion. It begins with the treatment planning phase and progresses in a logical manner through the phases of treatment until it ends with cementation. This progression is easy to read, and each chapter builds upon the one before it.

The illustrations and photographs that accompany the strong text are exceptional. Much of the evaluation is shown at different magnifications. Many photographs are shown at twenty-five times magnification. The precision of their preparations, impressions, and laboratory work is wonderfully captured in the images.

If there are downsides to this book, it is some of the armamentarium the authors use and the time they spend on their preparations. They refine their preparations with a diamond ultrasonic, which is not readily available in the United States. The number of steps they take to finalize a preparation is not reasonable in a private practice setting, unless the clinician charges significantly higher fees than what is readily accepted. Their work is beautiful but time-consuming.

As an educator, I believe that this book would enhance the knowledge of the reader due to its unique style and presentation. While the book is quite pricey, the abundance of photographs, clinical descriptions, citations, and illustrations make it worth every penny. I am sure that every reader will take something away from the book that will make him or her a better practitioner or teacher.
Practical Periodontal Plastic Surgery

Serge Dibart and Mamdouth Karina

108 pp., illustrated, indexed
$69.99 hardcover
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Successful Periodontal Therapy: A Non-Surgical Approach

P.A. Heasman, P.M. Preshaw, P. Robertson

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This book provides a superbly illustrated quick reference illustrating the full spectrum of periodontal plastic surgery procedures and includes brief introductory chapters on use of microsurgery techniques in periodontal procedures.

The writing style and summary format make this book easy to read. Individual chapters are well organized with procedure background, indications, armamentarium, procedure, post-op care, and complication descriptions. The longest chapter focuses on implant soft tissue procedures. A brief guide to selection of preferred techniques for different conditions concludes the book. The printing, photographs, radiographs, and illustrations are of excellent quality in this indexed hardbound book. My only criticisms are that there is little discussion about evidence-based criteria for selection of different procedures and the references are limited.

This book would be an excellent addition to dental and specialty department reference libraries. Dental clinicians with an interest in periodontal plastic surgery may also want to add this well-illustrated quick reference book to their practice libraries.

This book—a guide to the nonsurgical management of patients with gingival and periodontal diseases—is the third in a series of five books designed for use by the general dental practitioner. It is organized so that it can be used as a quick reference for treatment protocols, instruments, diagnostic aids, and medications. Its modified outline format is similar to that used by “High-Yield” books, which have been very successful in other disciplines.

The first chapter covers the goals and objectives of nonsurgical treatment. Subsequent chapters describe medications, strategies, and techniques for achieving successful nonsurgical treatment, including descriptions of the hygiene phase (and appropriate instruments), management of systemic and local risk factors, and adjunctive treatments. The final chapter discusses supportive periodontal care.

Each chapter begins with a section on the aims and objectives of that chapter. Following excellent introductions to each topic, subsequent sections are illustrated with high-quality drawings, color photographs, radiographs, and scanning electron micrographs. The conclusions are summarized at the end of each chapter and are also highlighted by either relevant tables or diagrams. Each chapter concludes with a list of relevant references. Several chapters contain cartoons, which provide humorous interludes for the reader. The modified outline format and the extensive index found in this textbook make the information quick and easy to find.

In my opinion, most of the information in this book would only be useful following a basic course in periodontics. However, Chapter 4 (Managing Systemic Risk Factors) addresses a significant clinical consideration and could easily be understood by the novice student. This chapter outlines some critical risk factors, such as genetics, environment (including other medications), behavior (such as smoking), lifestyle (such as stress), and metabolic diseases (including diabetes mellitus) for periodontitis, and emphasizes the importance
of treating these risk factors either prior to or concurrently with the periodontal disease. This chapter also includes a useful description of smoking cessation therapeutic techniques.

This small, focused, concise, and well-indexed book should be a useful reference for the general dentist or dental hygienist because it makes important information relevant to nonsurgical periodontal therapy so easy to find, even during a patient visit. In addition, several of the diagrams and pictures make excellent visual aids for patient education. These include diagrams of the diseased periodontium and of the Bass method of toothbrushing, photographs of proper flossing technique, and illustrations of specialized cleaning devices, such as interdental brushes. In my opinion, the book would be both an excellent adjunct text for the undergraduate student and a useful addition to the library of any dentist interested in providing periodontal care in a general practice. Some sections may also interest the graduate dental hygienist. I plan to include it in my personal library because its concise format makes rapid access to information very convenient.